

What is claimed is:

1 1. An apparatus for controlling playback according to program ratings, in
2 a video/audio recording/playback controlling apparatus for reproducing signals from
3 a recording medium in which a video signal having program rating data is recorded,
4 the apparatus comprising:
5 a data slicer for extracting only the program rating data from the video signal
6 in a general playback mode;
7 a decoder for decoding the program rating data output by the data slicer;
8 a controller for generating a first control signal for blocking a video/audio
9 signal if a viewable program rating set by a user is lower than the rating of the
10 decoded program data, or generating a second control signal if a video index search
11 system (VISS) signal is detected; and
12 a tape speed controller for executing a high-speed search mode when the
13 first control signal is received, or executing the general playback mode when the
14 second control signal is received.

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1 2. A method of controlling playback according to program ratings, in a
2 video/audio recording/playback controlling method of reproducing signals from a
3 recording medium in which a video signal having program rating data is recorded,
4 the method comprising the steps of:
5 (a) extracting program rating data from the video signal reproduced from the
6 recording medium;
7 (b) comparing a viewable program rating set by a user with the rating of
8 decoded program data extracted in step (a);
9 (c) stopping output of a video/audio signal and executing a high-speed
10 search mode, if the set viewable program rating is lower than the rating of the
11 extracted program rating data, otherwise, executing a normal playback mode;
12 (d) determining whether a new recorded program has been reached, while
13 the high-speed search mode is being executed; and
14 (e) converting the high-speed search mode into the normal playback mode if
15 a new recorded program has been reached, and then repeating the steps (a)
16 through (d).

1 3. The method of claim 2, wherein the determination in step (d) whether
2 the new recorded program has been reached is made by a determination of whether
A 3 a video index search system (VISS) signal is detected, made using the duty^{cycle} of a
4 control signal.

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